# THE NAWY Flight SURGEON

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVMED P-5077



#### CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

The advances of science even during these past 12 months have opened new vistas to the military medical specialist, and particularly to the flight surgeon. Already we have had flights by two astronauts into space, and in the future can expect many others to follow in their footsteps. Within the atmosphere, the speeds and attainable heights of our manned aircraft are ever increasing. With such progress come, of course, new challenges for the flight surgeon, as well as new problems which can be met only by those dedicated to a career of challenge.

I am proud that the Navy, always a pioneer in this field whose importance is ever increasing not only to this country but to all mankind, continues to maintain its outstanding forward progress in it. I am confident, too, that those within our ranks who have taken the Hippocratic oath will ever strive to insure that their achievements match those of their distinguished predecessors, and that the Navy will always be able to cite these achievements as a magnificent example of its capability as an instrument of peace.

Singe Audusm GEORGE W. ANDERSON



# WHO can become a flight surgeon in the Navy?

Physicians who qualify for a commission in the Navy may become flight surgeons

PROVIDED they

Volunteer for such training and duty

 Are aeronautically adapted and physically qualified— Physical standards for student naval flight surgeons are generally similar to those for commission as a medical officer. (Visual acuity of 20/100 in each eye, correctable to 20/20, is required.) In order to qualify for solo flight eye, correctable to 20/20, is required.) in order to quality for solo riight during basic training, visual acuity must not be less than 20/30 in each eye, unaided by glasses. Failure to meet this requirement does not disqualify for unaded by glasses. Latitude to lineer this requirement does not disquality for other indoctrinal flight training, leading to the designation of flight surgeon.

Sign a service agreement to remain on active duty for a period of one year following their completion of the course of instruction or six months beyond

their current obligated service, whichever is longer.

# SURGEON GENERAL, NAVY

This brochure has been prepared to acquaint you with the Navy's aviation medicine program and to answer those questions most frequently asked by medical students and young physicians,

The Naval Flight Surgeon performs a vital service for his country in a challenging and rewarding career. His primary function is the selection and maintenance at maximum effectiveness of personnel with the capability of performing a complex mental task in a hazardous environment. He must have an intimate knowledge and understanding of the personnel within his activity and of the stresses to which they are subjected,

The integration of the physical, engineering and biological sciences in aeronautical and space technologies has led to a better understanding of human physiology and psychology at high altitudes and supersonic speed and the evolvement of mechanical devices which enable man to function efficiently and comfortably under trying environmental conditions. The Navy's traditionally unique ability to support man in confined and isolated spaces against strange and hostile environments is a major factor in our nation's progress to "conquer" space.

Excellent opportunities are available to flight surgeons for further postgraduate training leading to certification in Aviation Medicine by the American Board of Preventive Medicine, The flight surgeon may also profitably combine aviation medicine practice with a clinical specialty.

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Rear Admiral, MC, USN Surgeon General, U. S. Navy

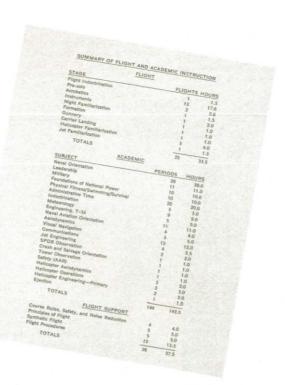
# WHAT specialized training does a flight surgeon receive?

Student flight surgeons are ordered to the Naval Aviation Medical Center, Pensacola, Florida, for a six-month course of instruction. The course is divided into two phases. The first four and one-half months are devoted to didactic and clinical studies, including special training in the fields particularly important to aviation medicine such as ophthalmology, otolaryngology, cardiology, neuropsychiatry, and cardio-respiratory physiology. The course includes training and experience in the special problem areas created by the stresses present in the environment of the aviator, by use of such facilities as low pressure chambers, ejection seat training devices, the human centrifuge, and the disorientation device.

COURSE IN AVIATION MEDICINE U. S. NAVAL SCHOOL OF AVIATION MEDICINE	
NAVAL AVIATION MEDICAL CENTER + PENSACOLA, FLORIDA	
Acceleration Laboratory	13
Aviation Dentistry	3
Aviation Pathology and Crash Investigation	20
Aviation Physical Examinations	3
Aviation Physical Examination Room	13
Aviation Physiology	45
Aviation Physiology Laboratory	26
Aviation Safety and Operational Medicine	15
Biophysics, Atomic, Biological, and Chemical Defense	35
Cardiology	40
Climatic Medicine (Arctic and Tropical)	14
Clinical Board Cases	18
Dermatology	14
Field Hyglene and Sanitation	8
Field Trips—Demonstrations	56
Guest Lectures	4
Industrial Medicine	12
Medical Administration	4
Military Indoctrination	15
Military Law	- 4
Naval Hospital Clinics	23
Neuropsychiatry	45
Neuropsychiatry-Clinic	26
Ophthalmology	40
Ophthalmology Clinic	67
Otorhinolaryngology	20
Otorhinolaryngology Clinic	13
Orientation	4
Orientation Films	7
Psychology	12
Psychology Clinic	- 15
Research Conferences	(
Search and Rescue	2
Search and Rescue Demonstration	3
Surgery	
Survival	10
TOTAL HOURS	660

# DOES the student flight surgeon learn to fly?

YES. The second phase of training consists of six weeks' flight and basic Ground School training.



Naval Aviation Medical Center, Pensacola, Florida

Lecture rooms, research laboratories, training equipment, and other supporting facilities are housed in the U.S. Naval School of Aviation Medicine.

The U.S. Naval Hospital is a fully accredited hospital, kaving a normal bed capacity of 571 beds. Clinical aspects of the flight surgeon's training are taught here and at the busy Air Station Dispensary.





# WHY become a flight surgeon?



• Flight surgeons can qualify for flight training leading to the designation of Naval Aviator. The duration of this training is approximately 18 months. Applications are desired from flight surgeons who have completed a tour of duty with the Fleet. Naval Aviator Flight Surgeons are assigned to test pilot programs, experimental squadrons, human engineering test facilities, and research programs.

Close association with Naval and Marine Aviators, who are among the most select men in uniform, is a rewarding experience in itself.

Medical practice at the larger Naval Air Stations and aboard aircraft carriers is comparable to hospital practice. The carriers are equipped to provide definitive care for large numbers of personnel in the Carrier Task Force.



• Flight surgeons qualify for further postgraduate training leading to certification by the American Board of Preventive Medicine in Aviation Medicine. This is a rapidly growing, challenging medical specialty. Included in this training is an academic year in Preventive Medicine and Public Health at one of the approved civilian universities. During the residency training phase, the candidate may pursue his particular interests with emphasis on clinical, research or general aspects of aviation medicine practice.



•Included in his responsibilities to his flying unit is the diversified care of the aviator's dependents. Thus, the flight surgeon's professional growth in general medicine practice is enhanced.

• Flight surgeons may profitably combine their aviation medicine practice with a clinical specialty such as ophthalmology, medicine, surgery, otorhinolaryngology, psychiatry, and others. Certification in pathology, in addition to aviation medicine, is another example of a long-range career pattern for flight surgeons.





 Excellent opportunities for travel, both at sea and at foreign stations, are open to flight surgeons.

Naval Flight surgeons and naval laboratories have made major contributions to space medicine. The vast effort to explore space presents unlimited opportunities to the aviation medicine specialist



# WHERE do flight surgeons serve?

#### NAVAL AIR STATIONS

More than 50 naval air stations are located along the east, west and gulf coasts, Alaska and in continental United States.

# NAVAL AIR FORCE

Aircraft carriers rotate and deploy to the Mediterranean area and other Atlantic ports.

## RESEARCH FACILITIES

Principal aviation research facilities are located in the following areas: Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, Pa., Pensacola, Fla., and Point Mugu, Calif.

#### WHAT ARE THE PAY AND ALLOWANCES?

A newly commissioned Lieutenant flight surgeon, on duty involving flying, with dependents receives a monthly income of \$830.48. Additional benefits, which considerably increase the value of the service doctor's pay, include medical care, ship's store and commissary privileges, dependents' transportation to and from permanent duty stations, and, most important, the attractive insurance aspects of survivor's benefits and retirement income.

#### **OVERSEAS BASES**

Some of the duty stations abroad are located in: Japan, Hawaii, Philippines, Marianas, Okinawa, Spain, Italy, England, and the Caribbean Islands.

#### NAVAL AIR FORCE PACIFIC

Aircraft carriers rotate and deploy to western Pacific and Asiatic ports.

### MARINE ACTIVITIES

Air Fleet Marine Forces, Atlantic and Pacific, have several continental and overseas bases.

# **HOW** to apply.

When applying for a commission in the Navy Medical Corps through your local Navy Recruiting Station or by enrollment in the Navy Ensign Program, candidates for flight surgeon training may simply address a letter of request similar to the following:

From:

Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery

To:

Department of the Navy

Washington 25, D. C.

Subi:

Course of instruction in aviation medicine;

request for

- 1. It is requested that I be considered for a course of instruction in aviation medicine for the class convening on
- 2. If approved for this course of instruction, I agree to remain on active duty for we years beyond the completion of the course or for six months beyond my current obligated service, whichever is longer.

Signature

NOTE: Medical officers on active duty should forward their application via their commanding officers.

# WHEN ... Why not now?



